

O P24801.A02

Applicant

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

: Masaru EGUCHI

Group Art Unit: 2873

Appl. No.

: 10/809,441

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed

: March 26, 2004

Confirmation No.: 8093

For

: ZOOM LENS SYSTEM AND FOCUS ADJUSTMENT METHOD

THEREOF

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby calls to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 5-323177, which was published on December 7, 1993, together with an English language translation of the same;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-352649, which was published on December 19, 2000, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 6,397,009 to ITO et al., which issued on May 28, 2002. Applicant notes that the Japanese patent document is mentioned on page 3 of the specification of the present application;

- U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0197950 to EGUCHI, which was published on October 23, 2003; and
- U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/00032670 to EGUCHI, which was published on February 19, 2004.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patent and U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents are attached and all of the documents have been listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p) to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted, Masaru EGUCHI

Reg. No. 44,550

Bruce H. Bernstein

Reg. No. 29,027

June 16, 2004 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 Roland Clarke Place Reston, VA 20191 (703) 716-1191

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conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.